

HA-1410

Between 1881 & 1928

House  
50 E. Gordon  
Bel Air  
public

This house was built by the Proctors who owned the Gothic cottage next door. From the similarity of the west two bays to other houses on the street, it was probably built in the 1880's. The eastern two bays, as one can see from the roof, were added later. It may have served as a dower house. It now houses School Board offices.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

50 E. Gordon Street

1st

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Bel Air

VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

Maryland

Harford

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

\_\_\_DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

\_\_\_STRUCTURE

\_\_\_SITE

\_\_\_OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

☒ PUBLIC

\_\_\_PRIVATE

\_\_\_BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

\_\_\_IN PROCESS

\_\_\_BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

☒ OCCUPIED

\_\_\_UNOCCUPIED

\_\_\_WORK IN PROGRESS

☒ ACCESSIBLE

\_\_\_YES: RESTRICTED

\_\_\_YES: UNRESTRICTED

\_\_\_NO

**PRESENT USE**

\_\_\_AGRICULTURE

\_\_\_MUSEUM

\_\_\_COMMERCIAL

\_\_\_PARK

☒ EDUCATIONAL

\_\_\_PRIVATE RESIDENCE

\_\_\_ENTERTAINMENT

\_\_\_RELIGIOUS

\_\_\_GOVERNMENT

\_\_\_SCIENTIFIC

\_\_\_INDUSTRIAL

\_\_\_TRANSPORTATION

\_\_\_MILITARY

\_\_\_OTHER Administration

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Harford County School Board

Telephone #: 838-7300

STREET & NUMBER

45 E. Gordon Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21014

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_FEDERAL \_\_\_STATE \_\_\_COUNTY \_\_\_LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

NA-1910

### CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This small L-shaped shiplap house is at 50 East Gordon Street in the Town of Bel Air, Harford County, Maryland. It has an asphalt tile covered gable roof. While the building is now three bays wide, there are stylistic indications and indications in the roof that the eastern bay is an addition or possibly an enclosed sun porch. A hipped-roof porch supported on square posts shades the western two bays of the front (south)elevation. The fenestration is 6/6 double-hung sash windows set in plain surrounds with the exception of the first story east bay. These windows are double, eight paned casements in the front (south) and side (east) elevations. All the windows with the exception of these casements are framed in double adjustable louvered shutters. The entry is severely plain, having only a thin transom over a very recent hollow-core door with three windows in the top third. The two-story ell is attached to the rear of the main block in the north east portion. Behind that is a one story shed addition. The off-center gable of this ell is accounted for by the fact that the eastern bay of it is a porch (see floor plan) which was probably one-story and extended to two-stories and enclosed at the time the shed was added. A slim inside chimney with a corbelled cap rises in the ridge of the ell roof. An outside chimney, stubbier and with a mortar cap, rises in the rear (north) elevation of the main block just at the intersection of the main block with the east elevation of the ell. The style of the chimney and of the fireplace inside suggest a later date than the main block does and adds to the speculation that that room is an enclosed porch.

The interior of the building is spartan. On entering one faces an open string dog-leg staircase with a square plank newel topped by a knob. The balusters are plain turned. The stair is open to the room. If the eastern-most room is really an enclosed porch, the original block was composed of one room in front and one in the back. A now-enclosed porch ran along the east side of the rear room and the shed addition is at the back (to the north) of this room. The kitchen was probably in the shed because there is a pass-through between the two. The last room in the main block has a recent-looking (c. 1940's) fieldstone fireplace in the north wall. Upstairs there are three small rooms.

This house is quite small and has about the same amount of interior space as the little shotgun houses on AliceAnne Street, but the location, the more elegant vaguely colonial design, the porch, and the shutters mark this as a residence which is socially a cut above AliceAnne Street.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW		
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES Between 1881 & 1928 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This small T-shaped shiplap house is typical of a middle class dwelling in Bel Air in the early part of the present century. Its unpretentious style has worn very well. At present it houses offices of the Harford County Board of Education which purchased it in 1967 from William Richardson and his wife Mary (744/323). The Richardsons bought it from Harry C. Scarff and Marguerite D. Scarff, both single and probably siblings, in 1966. The Scarffs had purchased it from Lenore Kimble Waters and her husband L. Bradford Waters, of Lynchburg, Va. Mrs. Kimble inherited it from Florine Kimble, her sister, who died intestate in 1958. In 1928 Florine Kimble bought the property from Sophia E. Proctor, widow, who had purchased the larger lot down to Franklin Street including the Proctor House next door from Augustus and Josephine Proctor of Philadelphia (1881) for \$1600. The price suggests that there was not a second house on the lot at that time. The architecture of 50 East Gordon Street suggests that it was built nearer the turn of the century, but it is possible that it was built as late as 1928 when Miss Kimble purchased the property from Mrs. Proctor. The Harford Democrat of April 16, 1880, mentions a house owned by J. Wesley Proctor on Gordon St. which might be this house, but none of Charles W. Proctor's sons have that name. The J. Armfield Proctor is Charles W.'s son, but it seems unlikely he would have a grown son that early. It would seem to require a family connection for a second house to be built on that lot that close to the family house next door.

This unpretentious but pleasing house is a good example of the smaller homes in Bel Air.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This property occupies parcel 546 in the Town of Bel Air. 35' x 200'

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

M. Larew

8 February 1979

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Town of Bel Air

838-8700

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

39 Hickory Avenue

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Bel Air

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

TITLE 50 EAST GORDON STREET

744/323            28 February 1967  
William Baldwin Richardson & Mary  
Berkeley Richardson, wife  
                 to  
Board of Education of Harford County  
35 x 200

702/131            18 February 1966  
Harry C. Scarff and Marguerite D. Scarff  
(Both Single)  
                 to  
William Richardson and Mary, wife

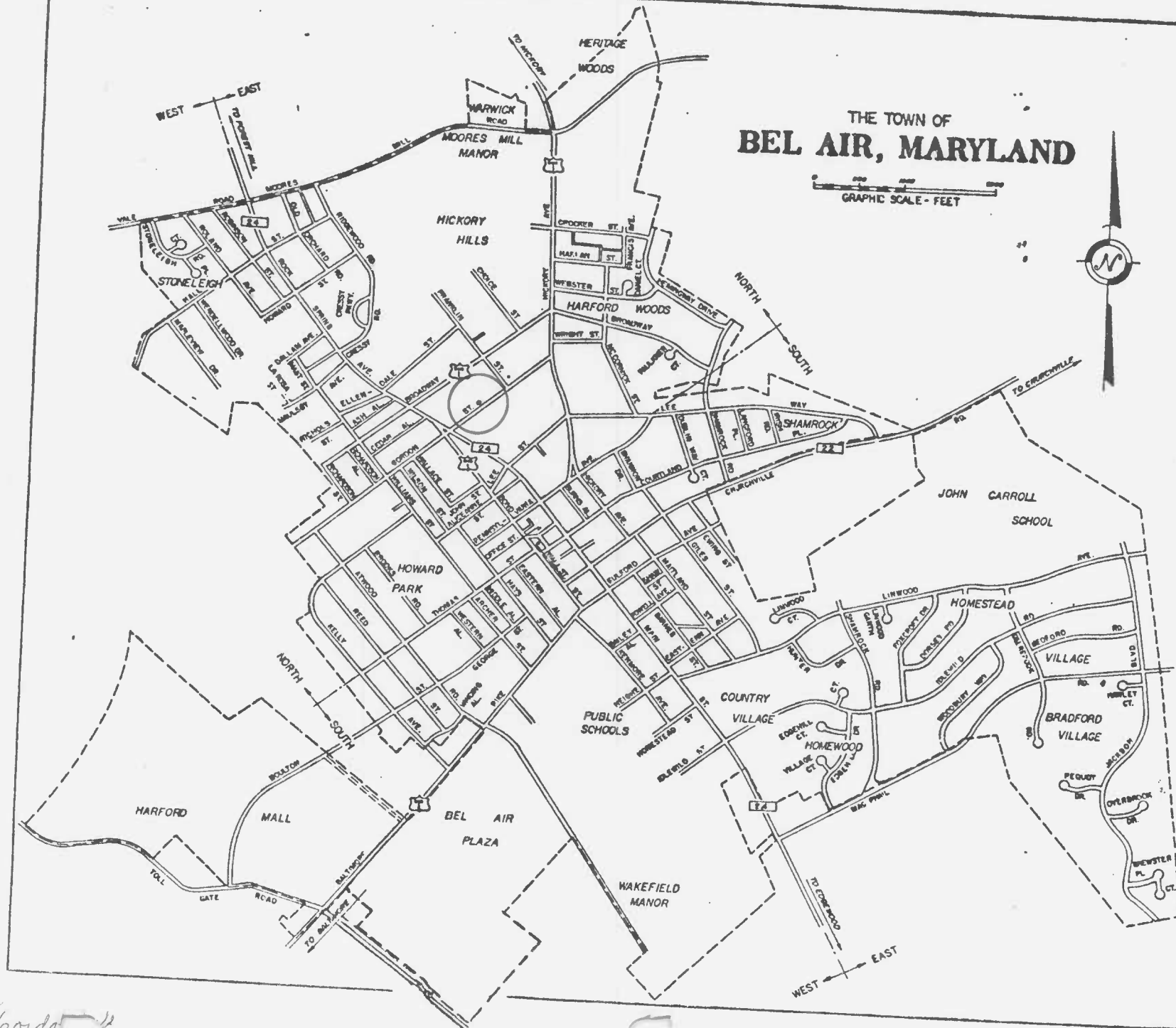
520/457            16 February 1959  
Lenore Kimble Waters & L. Bradford Waters,  
husband, of Lynchburg, Va.  
                 to  
Harry C. Scarff & Marguerite Scarff  
Lenore Kimble inherited the property from  
Florine Kimble, her sister, who died  
intestate 12 June 1958

208/182            30 April 1928  
Sophia E. Proctor, widow  
                 to  
Florine Kimble

42/361            22 January 1881  
Augustus E. Proctor and Josephine, wife, of  
Philadelphia  
                 to  
Sophia E. Proctor  
\$1600  
This is the larger lot down to Franklin  
Street and includes the Proctor House next  
door

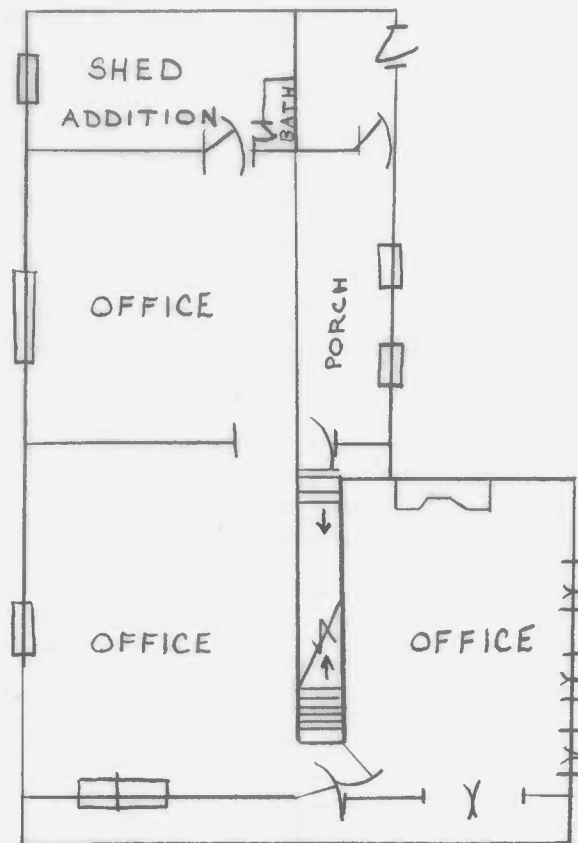
# THE TOWN OF BEL AIR, MARYLAND

GRAPHIC SCALE - FEET



HA-1410

House  
50 E. 600th St  
Bel Air



HA-1410

DRAWN BY: MARILYN LAREW

TRACED BY: G. CUNO

HOUSE  
503 E. GORDON ST.  
BEL AIR, MARYLAND

HA-1410

SCALE: 1" = 8'





HOUSE, 50 E. GORDON ST., 3RD FLOOR

S. ELEVATION

M. L. AREW, 1979

HA-1410







HOUSE - 50 E. GORDON, BEL AIR  
WIS ELEVATIONS  
M. LARSEN, 199

HA 1410



HA-1410





HA-1410



HA - 1410



HA-1410